

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

As a customer of DIRECTV, I am writing to urge you to support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. I believe the merger will increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me.

I have desperately wanted serious competition for the cable industry for many years now. In fact, I became so upset with the practices of our local cable company (AT&T) that I switch to satellite a couple of years ago. I vowed never to go back to cable again!

I feel the next step in this battle is to give satellite companies the chance to combine their bandwidth in order to create strong competition in the broadband internet and HDTV markets. Cable companies across the country are making some headway in this arena, albeit reluctantly. They have been dragging their feet for quite some time now. This merger will give cable companies the competition they so desperately need.

This is not an issue about a satellite TV monopoly. It should not matter how the television signal reaches the consumer: by cable, satellite, broadcast, microwave, etc. What should matter is that there be competition in the pay television market, and satellite TV is the best competition cable TV has.

I urge you to support the merger of EchoStar and Hughes. I believe it will make all forms of pay television better for the consumer, and help usher in the era of HDTV and broadband internet.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Jason Dzubak
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Pleasant Grove, UT 84062